

I claim:

1. An improvement in a cloaked RFID tag ~~10~~ having an antenna comprising:

a switch;

a logic circuit coupled to said switch to selectively allow communication of signals through said antenna during normal operation to allow output of a signal from said RFID tag through said antenna and to disable the output from said RFID during a cloaking period; and

a receiving connection to said RFID tag so that command signals are continuously receivable notwithstanding cloaking of said RFID tag.

2. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said RFID tag includes an input circuit and wherein said receiving connection is an electrical connection between said antenna and said input circuit which is not interrupted by operation of said switch.

1 3. The improvement of claim 2 wherein said electrical connection comprises
2 a diode coupled between said antenna and said input circuit.

1 4. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch is a grounding switch
2 coupled between said antenna and ground.

1 5. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch communicates signals
2 through said antenna by selectively grounding said antenna according to said signals
3 during said normal operation.

1 6. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said
2 switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from
3 said switch during said cloaking operation.

1 7. The improvement of claim 5 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to
2 said switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals
3 from said switch during said cloaking operation.

1 8. The improvement of claim 1 further comprising supplying power through
2 said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking operation.

1 9. The improvement of claim 1 wherein said switch is a switching transistor.

1 10. An RFID tag comprising:

2 an antenna;

3 an input circuit coupled to said antenna;

4 a switch controlling said antenna;

5 a logic circuit coupled to said switch to selectively allow communication of
6 signals through said antenna during normal operation to allow output of a signal from
7 said RFID tag through said antenna and to disable the output from said RFID during a
8 cloaking period; and

9 a receiving connection to said RFID tag so that command signals are
10 continuously receivable through said antenna by said input circuit notwithstanding
11 cloaking of said RFID tag.

1 11. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said receiving connection is an electrical
2 connection between said antenna and said input circuit which is not interrupted by
3 operation of said switch.

1 13. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said switch is a grounding switch
2 coupled between said antenna and ground.

1 15. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said
2 switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from
3 said switch during said cloaking operation.

1 16. The RFID tag of claim 14 wherein said logic circuit couples signals to said
2 switch to ground said antenna during said normal operation and isolates signals from
3 said switch during said cloaking operation.

1 17. The RFID tag of claim 10 further comprising a power connection for
2 supplying power through said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking
3 operation.

1 18. The RFID tag of claim 10 wherein said switch is a switching transistor.

2 19. An improvement in a method of controlling a cloakable RFID tag
3 comprising:
4 disabling communication of data signals from said RFID tag through said
5 antenna coupled to said RFID tag during cloaking of said RFID tag; and
6 receiving command signals by said RFID tag through said antenna during said
7 cloaking operation.

1 20. The improvement of claim 19 wherein receiving command signals by said
2 RFID tag through said antenna during said cloaking operation couples said command
3 signals through an electrical connection between said antenna and an input circuit
4 which is not interrupted by operation of said switch.

1 21. The improvement of claim 20 wherein coupling said command signals
2 through an electrical connection between said antenna and said input circuit comprises
3 coupling said command signals through a diode coupled between said antenna and
4 said input circuit.

1 22. The improvement of claim 19 further comprising communicating data
2 signals from said RFID tag through said antenna by selectively grounding said antenna
3 through a switch coupled between said antenna and ground during normal operation.

1 23. The improvement of claim 22 further comprising disabling communication
2 of data signals from said RFID tag through said antenna by selectively isolating said
3 data signals from said switch coupled between said antenna and ground during
4 cloaking operation.

1 24. The improvement of claim 19 further comprising supplying power through
2 said antenna to said RFID circuit during said cloaking operation.